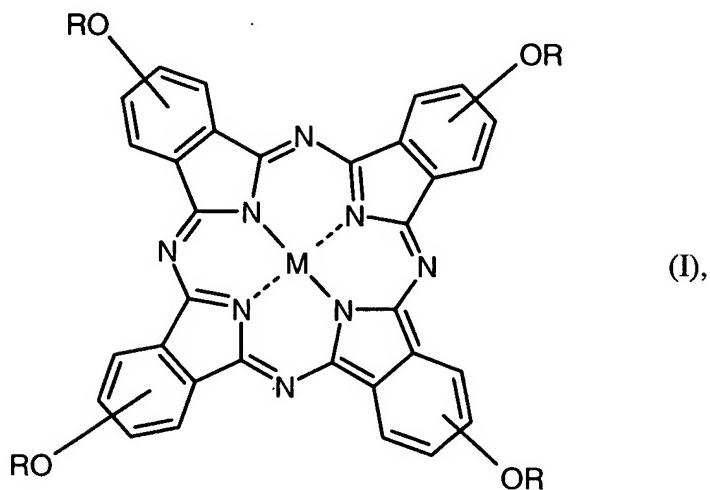


Claims

1. Process for preparing alkoxy-substituted, metal-containing phthalocyanines of the formula (I)

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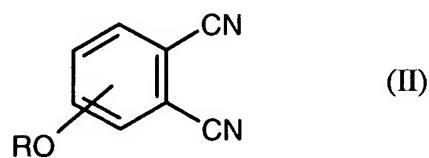


where

10 R is substituted or unsubstituted alkyl or cycloalkyl,

M is a divalent metal atom, metaloxy or a trivalent or tetravalent substituted metal atom,

15 characterized in that the phthalonitrile of the formula (II)



is reacted in the presence of a metal salt and a base in a water-miscible solvent.

2. Process according to Claim 1, wherein the solvent used is DMF, NMP, DMSO, caprolactam or a mixture thereof.

3. Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that

5 R is methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, pentyl, 3-(2,4-dimethyl)pentyl, tert-amyl, hexyl, heptyl, octyl, nonyl, decyl, undecyl, dodecyl, ethylhexyl, hydroxyethyl, methoxyethyl, ethoxyethyl, 3-(2-ethylhexyloxy)propyl, methoxyethoxypropyl, methoxyethoxyethyl, 3-dimethylaminopropyl, 3-di-
10 ethylaminopropyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, phenylcyclohexyl or cyclooctyl, in particular 3-(2,4-dimethyl)pentyl.

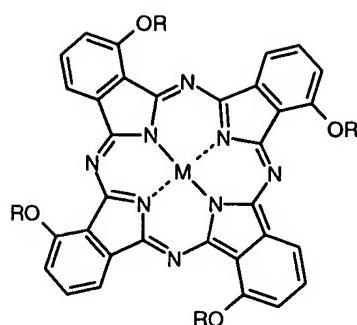
4. Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that

15 M is Cu, Zn, Fe, Ni, Ru, Rh, Pd, Pt, Mn, Mg, Be, Ca, Ba, Cd, Hg, Sn, Co, Pb, VO, MnO, TiO, FeCl, AlCl, GaCl, InCl, AlBr, GaBr, InBr, AlI, GaI, InI, AlF, GaF, InF, SiCl₂, GeCl₂ or SnCl₂.

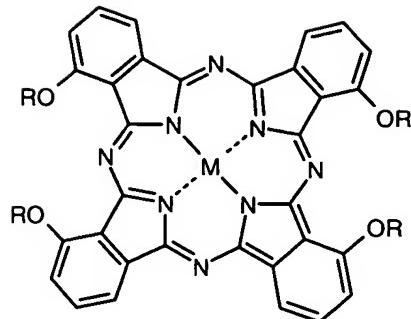
20 5. Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the reaction is carried out at a temperature of from 130°C to 190°C.

25 6. Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the base used is 1,5-diazabicyclo[4.3.0]non-5-ene, 1,5-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-5-ene, 1,4-diaza-bicyclo[2.2.2]octane, ammonia, morpholine, piperidine, pyridine, picoline, a C₁-C₁₂-alkoxide or a mixture thereof.

7. Isomer mixture comprising at least 20% by weight of the isomers (Iy) and (Iz), based on the sum of the isomers of the formula (I)



(Iy)



(Iz)

where

5 M and R are as defined in Claim 1.

8. Optical data carrier comprising a preferably transparent substrate which may, if desired, have previously been coated with one or more reflection layers and to whose surface a light-writable information layer, if desired one or more reflection layers and if desired a protective layer or a further substrate or a covering layer have been applied, which can be written on and read by means of infrared light, preferably laser light, particularly preferably light having a wavelength in the range 750-800 nm, in particular 770-790 nm, where the information layer comprises a light-absorbent compound and, if desired, a binder, characterized in that at least one phthalocyanine isomer mixture according to Claim 7 is used as light-absorbent compound.
9. Use of phthalocyanine isomer mixtures according to Claim 7 as light-absorbent compounds in the light-writable information layer of optical data stores.